



SEPTEMBER 2021 *People, Platforms, Performance, Power*

FORCE REPORT

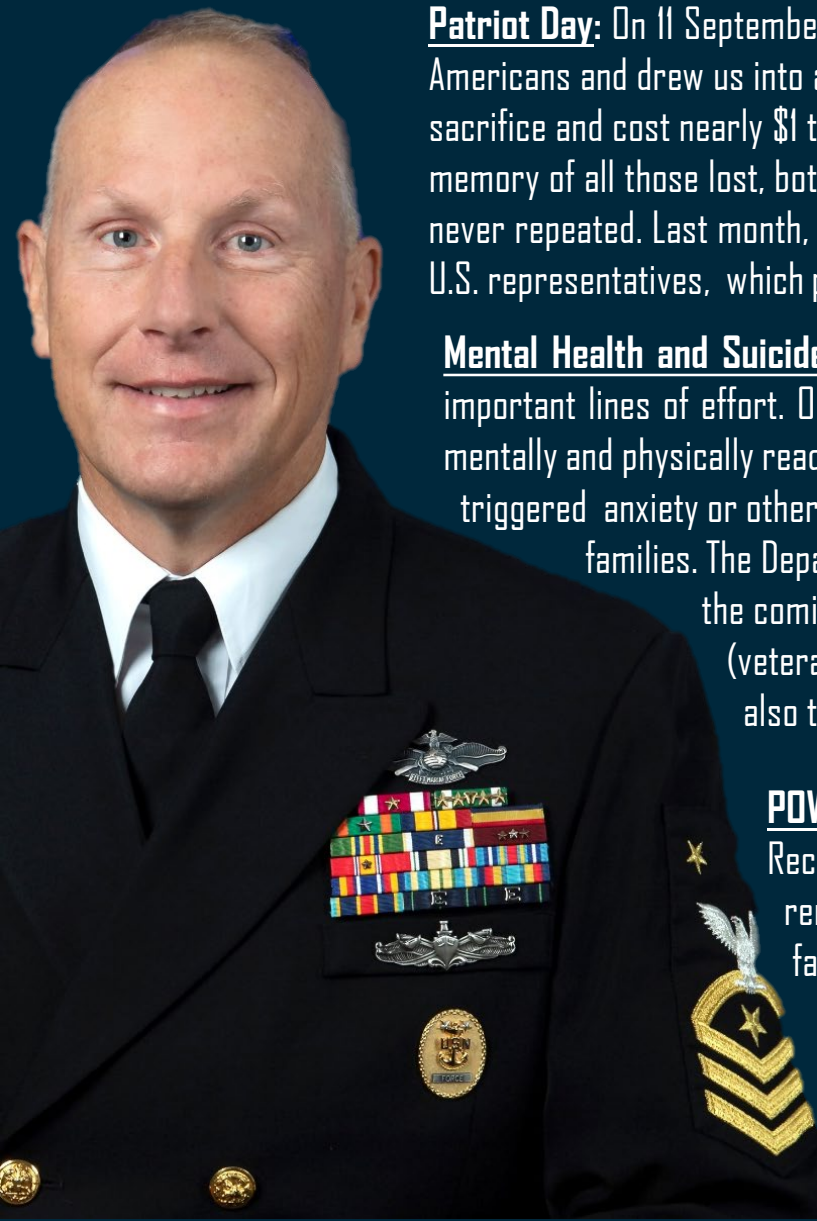


Force Master Chief Roberts, Director Hospital Corps:

Patriot Day: On 11 September 2001 Terrorists conducted a coordinated attack on our Nation that took the lives of 2996 Americans and drew us into a war in Iraq and Afghanistan where approximately 6900 brave Americans gave the ultimate sacrifice and cost nearly \$1 trillion dollars during 20 years of conflict. On Sep 11TH we celebrate Patriot Day to honor the memory of all those lost, both here and abroad, and to keep close in our minds the lessons of yesterday so that they are never repeated. Last month, President Biden ended our presence in Afghanistan by withdrawing all remaining forces and U.S. representatives, which put an end to the longest war in our country's history.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention: Mental health and specifically suicide prevention remains one of our most important lines of effort. Our Sailors are our most valuable and important asset and we need every one of you both mentally and physically ready to respond to our Nations call. The recent withdrawal of forces in Afghanistan may have triggered anxiety or other negative emotions that can contribute to mental health issues in our Sailors and their families. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is prepared to provide additional mental health services in the coming months. The Veteran Crisis Line is also available around-the-clock at 1-800-273-8255 (veterans should select option 1 for a VA staffer.) Veterans, troops or their family members can also text 838255 or visit VeteransCrisisLine.net for assistance.

POW / MIA: September 17TH is National Prisoner of War and Missing In Action (POW/MIA) Recognition Day. On this day we pause to remember the sacrifices made by those who were or remain prisoners of war or missing in action. We extend our support and our hearts to the families and loved ones who are without those brave men and women who paid or continue to pay heavily for their commitment to serving this great Nation. Though many of our POW/MIA may not find their way back to us, they will never be forgotten. We remain now and forever, resolved to honor them, their commitment, and their sacrifices.



NAVY MEDICINE NEWS

AFGHANISTAN

The recent events in Afghanistan have undoubtedly brought many vivid memories and feelings to the forefront for us and our brothers and sisters in arms. The reoccurring theme through my discussions with many of my colleagues, Sailors, and Marines is “What was all this for?” For 20 years we have fought side-by-side with members of our military and NATO allies. The naval medical community made significant sacrifice to contribute the mission and provide care to our Afghan partners. We have seen our brothers and sisters make the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. Our mission for the past 20 years was to provide peace, hope, and a new future to the people of Afghanistan. We provided opportunities to a generation of citizens that they would otherwise have never known. I have heard countless stories of lives changed due to your dedication to duty. The future of Afghanistan remains uncertain at this time, but please make no mistake that **our work changed lives for the better** and I remain optimistic because of my firsthand observation of the perseverance of the Afghan people. Your sacrifice and your dedication mattered. I ask that you continue to stay the course, stay focused, and most of all stay sharp.

HAITI

The people of Haiti recently suffered a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake. As they continue to suffer from the aftereffects of that devastation we are responding with assistance. This international relief effort to help the people of Haiti has become a core component of what Navy Medicine does to make the world a better place on a daily basis. We have dedicated a Fleet Surgical Team aboard USS ARLINGTON (LPD 24) to this effort, and we are sending a Forward Deployable Preventive Medicine Unit (FDPMU) to provide additional relief in support of U.S. Southern Command Joint Task Force-Haiti.

LOUISIANA

Though Navy Medicine is an integral part of the Navy’s global mission we also remain dedicated to providing aid to our fellow Americans when and wherever we are needed. This week we deployed a 23 person Medical Response Team (MRT) to Lafayette Louisiana to integrate with and supplement local hospitals who have exhausted their abilities to battling this current wave of COVID that is so aggressively attacking mostly those who remain unvaccinated. MRTs are the next iteration of frontline COVID-relief, and a hybrid of our Acute Care Team and Rapid Rural Response Teams that proved so vital earlier in this pandemic. Though MRTs are being called to action they are not our only asset. Every Corpsman in the fleet has extensive training that may be called upon at a moments notice to support a new mission in a new location. It is critical that each of you remain fully ready to respond when called. Get vaccinated, take care of yourself and your families, and be ready because your Nation needs you now more than ever.



CAREER COUNSELOR CORNER

NCCM Tony Turner: tony.d.turner4.mil@mail.mil

NAVY TUITION ASSISTANCE(TA) & NAVY COLLEGE PROGRAM FOR AFLOAT COLLEGE EDUCATION(NCPACE)

Tuition Assistance (TA)

is the Navy's educational financial assistance program. It provides active duty personnel funding for tuition costs for courses taken in an off-duty status at a college, university or vocational/technical institution. The academic institution must be regionally or nationally accredited by an agency recognized by the Department of Education. The academic institution must also be a signatory of the Department of Defense Memorandum of Understanding. Navy TA pays for both classroom and independent study/distance learning courses in semester, quarter, or clock hours. Clock hour courses must lead to an eligible certificate/diploma program. Navy TA pays, up-front, the tuition for course enrollments. Navy TA pays 100 percent of tuition costs for courses applicable to the completion of a high school diploma or equivalency certificate. For other education levels, there is a fiscal year credit limit of 12 semester hours or equivalent quarter hours. TA funding is capped at 120 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) in a career. This excludes courses taken to complete a high school diploma.

Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE)

NCPACE also pays up to 100% (within fiscal year/career caps and limits) of tuition charged by educational institutions for course enrollments. While all eligible Sailors can participate in the TA program, the objective of NCPACE is to provide personnel assigned to sea duty type 2 and 4 Unit Identification Codes (UICs) with educational opportunities comparable to those available to shore duty personnel. NCPACE offers participating Sailors high quality learning opportunities and experiences through Distance Learning courses from post-secondary institutions accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the Department of Education. NCPACE courses do not require ongoing Internet connectivity to complete (some courses require a one-time download at the beginning of the course and an upload at the completion).

The following steps focus on how to submit and receive approval of your TA/NCPACE application. These steps should be completed in order:

Step 1 Inform your Command

Step 2 Complete the required training

Step 3 Receive education counseling and define your education goal

Step 4 Submit education plan and review with Navy College Counselor

Step 5 Submit TA/NCPACE application in My Navy Education

Step 6 Generate TA/NCPACE Voucher and send to educational institution

For updates/changes to the TA/NCPACE programs please read visit their website:

<https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/index.htm>

NEC SPOTLIGHT

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS-L23A

Surgical Technologists assists the medical officer in carrying out surgical techniques. Provides nursing care, safety, and support to patients before, during and after surgery. Selects, sterilizes and prepares instruments and materials for the aseptic environment necessary for surgery. Assists anesthetist during operating procedures in giving artificial respiration and in the use of resuscitators. Maintains surgical equipment and records. Assists with instruction, supervision, and evaluation of students and other corpsmen assigned duties relating to surgery.



INCENTIVES

Selective Reenlistment Bonuses:

*Zone A- \$45,000

*Zone B- \$60,000

*Current as of Aug 2021 / must meet eligibility requirements

For more information contact your Command Career Counselor
or visit [MyNavyHR.Navy.Mil](https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil)

BRAVO ZULU

JOB WELL DONE!



HM2(FMF/SW) VDEGTLE, MARINE RAIDER REGIMENT

As SMDR for the Marine Raider Regiment, HM2 was responsible for the COVID task force tracker for 1700 Marines and Sailors across MARSOC. He advised Regimental leadership and three Battalions on COVID tracking, contact tracing, testing, patient monitoring, and provided daily reports. His commitment ensured the successful deployment of 400 Marine Raiders over 16 countries and managed the treatment and recovery of 287 COVID positive patients MARSOC wide.



HM3 PEREZ, PATROL SQUADRON TEN

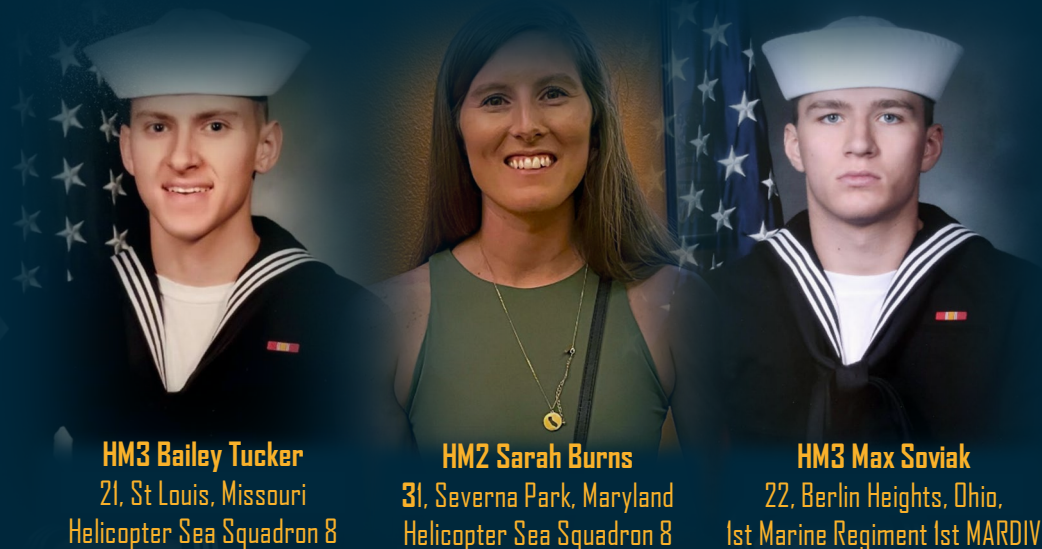
Petty Officer Perez demonstrated meticulous attention to detail in providing critical support in the medical preparation efforts for eight squadron detachments, including the administration of required vaccinations and development of emergency care plans in foreign locations. Her hard work resulted in squadron medical readiness of 96.9 percent which is currently the highest medical readiness of any squadron within Naval Aviation.



Last month Navy Medicine lost three members of our family. Though we mourn the loss of these three warriors, our loss cannot compare to that felt by their families, loved ones, and close friends. Some of you may have known these shipmates and feel the pain of their sudden departure deeply or have been reminded by their loss of the many before them who gave all in service to our Corps, our Navy, and our Nation.

These Sailors remind us that we willingly place ourselves in danger every time we don our uniform so that others may live free. We can be over 7,000 miles from home in a hostile nation or just 60 miles off the coast of San Diego over friendly waters, there is always danger in the job we do. Being a Navy Corpsman is more than a job, its service to our nation, it's a call to duty, and these three answered that call with courage and distinction to their last day. Sometimes this service comes at a cost, and last month that cost was the highest that can be paid.

Sad as I am over the loss of these three selfless Corpsmen, I am also reminded by their courage and sacrifice of the resolve and pride in service that keeps me in uniform. Rather than focus on our shared pain, I choose as I hope you will, to focus on continuing the work they did, on continuing to be the best of who they were. Abraham Lincoln said "Any Nation that does not honor it's heroes will not long endure" I agree with him and it is because of heroes like HM2 Burns, HM3 Tucker and HM3 Soviak and our never ending resolve to honor, remember and carry forward the work that they gave all of themselves to do, that this Nation will forever endure and prosper.



HM3 Bailey Tucker
21, St Louis, Missouri
Helicopter Sea Squadron 8

HM2 Sarah Burns
31, Severna Park, Maryland
Helicopter Sea Squadron 8

HM3 Max Soviak
22, Berlin Heights, Ohio,
1st Marine Regiment 1st MARDIV

FALLEN, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN

Hospital Corpsman Third Class Brian K. Lundy
25, of Austin, Texas, died, September 9, 2011
during combat operations in Afghanistan

Hospital Corpsman Third Class James R. Layton
22, of Riverbank, California, died September 8, 2009
during combat operations in Afghanistan

Hospital Corpsman Third Class Benjamin P. Castiglione
21, of Howell, Michigan, died September 3, 2009
during combat operations in Afghanistan

Hospital Corpsman Third Class Eichmann A. Strickland
23, of Arlington, Washington, died September 9, 2008
during combat operations in Afghanistan.

Hospital Corpsman Second Class Charles L. Milam
26, of Littleton, Colorado, died September 25, 2007
during combat operations in Afghanistan

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Christopher G. Walsh
30, of St. Louis, Missouri, died Sept. 4, 2006
during combat operations in Iraq

Hospital Corpsman Robert N. Martens
20, of Queen Creek Arizona, died Sept. 6, 2005
during combat operations in Afghanistan

2996 AMERICANS
lost on September 11, 2001



FAIR WINDS AND



FOLLOWING SEAS

HM1 AGUINALDO ZALDY C	HM1 CARRASQUILLO ERNESTO	HMC GALLEGOS DAWN M	HMCS LOVVORN SCOTT D	HM1 ROBINSON JOHN M
HM1 ANDERSON ROGER W	HM1 CHAMBERS STEFANIE R	HMC GILBERT RICHARD T	HMC MADDEN ERIC L	HM1 ROMAN NORBERTO L
HM1 ASUNCION JEROME A	HM2 CONLEY TERRELL L	HM1 GREER WILLIS D	HMCS MANAHAN RAYMOND P	HM1 ROSENDAHL ANDREW M
HMCB BAGLEY MICHAEL J	HMC CONNELL SARAH E	HM1 HAMMOND BRENT D	HMC MCELHINNEY PATRICK L	HMCS SALAZAR RODEL C
HMC BARFIELD JUNE	HM1 CORT NEEKITA V	HMCS HAVEN DAVID E	HMC MELO JOSE M	HMC SALTER HOWARD L
HMC BELTRAM BARBARA A	HM1 ESGUERRA JOSE G	HMC HILL KARYL D	HMCS MILLER KEVIN L	HM1 SMITH CLAYTON E
HM1 BENCOMO ROBERTO B	HM1 ESPAIN LEONARDO	HM1 HOUPPT FRANK J	HMC MILLER MARK J	HMC SOUKUP TIMOTHY J
HMC BRODIE FREDRICK J	HMC ESTEP DUSTIN D	HMC JENNINGS TAYLOR R	HMC MORRIS SHANTE K	HM1 URTULA ROMULO V
HM1 BROWN KEVIN A	HMC FACEY NEVILLE D	HMC KAMAU PETER K	HM1 MYERS JOSEPH JR	HM1 VELASCO JAIRENAN G
HM1 CALZADO JEFFREY D	HMC FONTECHA NARCISO M	HM1 LINDSAY MAEGAN M	HM1 NYARKO GEORGE	HM1 VICTORINO IMELDA R
HM1 CAMP SABRINA J	HMC FRANK CRYSTAL L	HM1 LOVE ERIKA	HM1 RAPHIELSHIELDS T	HMCS VILLASANTE FELIPE

For many years these sailors stood the watch. While some of us were in our bunks at night these sailors stood the watch.

While some of us were in school learning our trade these shipmates stood the watch.

Yes.. even before some of us were born into this world these shipmates stood the watch.

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on the horizon of history these shipmates stood the watch.

**Many times they would cast an eye ashore and see their family standing there,
needing their guidance and help, needing that hand to hold during those hard times but they still stood the watch.**

They stood the watch for twenty years or more.

**They stood the watch so that we, our families and our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety, each and every night,
knowing that a sailor stood the watch. Today we are here to say,**

Shipmate... the watch stands relieved.

Relieved by those you have trained ,guided, and led.

Shipmate you stand relieved..

WE HAVE THE WATCH

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